

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 034446

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TOSEC 281

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 34446 ACTION AQABA 14 FEB

QUOTE

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TOSEC 281

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TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:COMBINED WIRES, RADIO TRAVELING MEDIA

REPORT, MORNING, FEBRUARY 14

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 22

RADIO

1. KALB (CBS RADIO): HAK LEFT FOR JORDAN AFTER A FINAL
SESSION WITH PM RABIN AND A COURTESY CALL AND LUNCH WITH
GOLDA MEIR, RABIN'S PREDECESSOR. HAK GOT A DETAILED
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PAGE 02 STATE 034446

RUNDOWN ON THE ISRAELI POSITION. ACCORDING TO A SENIOR

ISRAELI SOURCE, RABIN HAS THREE OPTIONS IN MIND - FIRST, AN OVERALL PEACE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT WHICH HE CONSIDERS THE KEY TO EVERYTHING IN THE ME - THAT IS UNREALISTIC; SECOND, AN INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT IN WHICH ISRAEL PULLS OUT OF THE STRATEGIC PASSES IN THE SINAI AND RETURNS THE OIL FIELDS AND EGYPT PLEDGES HERSELF PUBLICLY TO AN END TO ALL ACTS OF WAR AGAINST ISRAEL AND A START OF NORMAL POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS - THAT TOO MAY BE VERY TOUGH TO GET; FINALLY, ISRAEL WOULD EFFECT A VERY MODEST WITHDRAWAL RETAINING CONTROL OF THE PASSES AND THE OIL FIELDS AND EGYPT WOULD AGREE

TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENSION OF THE UN FORCE, NOT FOR SIX MONTHS AS USUAL BUT 18 OR EVEN 24 AND A START TO AN END TO THE ARAB BOYCOTT AGAINST ISRAEL. HAK THINKS NONE OF THESE THREE OPTIONS MAY BE FEASIBLE UNLESS THERE ARE MAJOR CONCESSIONS IN ISRAEL AND IN EGYPT BEFORE HE RETURNS TO THE ME NEXT MONTH FOR A MAJOR EFFORT AT ARRANGING ANOTHER INTERIM SINAI AGREEMENT.

WIRES

1. AP (SCHWEID-JERUSALEM): HAK MOVES ON TO JORDAN TODAY AFTER TALKS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS THAT HE SAID WERE "FRUITFUL AND POSITIVE."

A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL IN THE SECRETARY'S PARTY SAID THERE STILL WAS ONLY A 50-50 CHANCE HE CAN NEGOTIATE ANOTHER ISRAELI TROOP WITHDRAWAL IN THE SINAI DESERT.

HAK TOLD NEWSMEN THURSDAY NIGHT HIS FOUR DAYS OF TALKS WITH RABIN AND SADAT HAD NOT PRODUCED "CONCRETE PROPOSALS, PLANS OR (NEW CEASE FIRE) LINES, BUT RATHER A CONTINUATION OF THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT WERE PART OF MY EXPLORATORY MISSION."

HAK AND HIS AIDES SAID ALL ALONG THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WAS TO CLARIFY THE DEMANDS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND DETERMINE IF ANOTHER JERUSALEM-TO-CAIRO MEDIATION SHUTTLE MIGHT PRODUCE AN AGREEMENT. HAK APPARENTLY THINKS NOW THAT IT MIGHT SINCE HE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 034446

IS RETURNING TO THE AREA AROUND MARCH 10.

THE SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL SAID THAT ON THE NEXT TRIP, HAK WOULD GO FIRST TO CAIRO TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF A SIZABLE ISRAELI PULLBACK IN EXCHANGE FOR MOVES BY EGYPT TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF THE JEWISH STATE.

HOWEVER, WELL-INFORMED ISRAELI SOURCES SAID ONLY A LIMITED

AGREEMENT MIGHT RESULT, WITH ISRAELI TROOPS PULLING BACK TO - BUT NOT BEHIND - THE MITLA AND GIDI PASSES IN EXCHANGE FOR AN 18-MONTH EXTENSION IN THE LIFE OF THE

UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE BETWEEN THE ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN ARMIES.

HAK SPENDS TONIGHT WITH KING HUSSEIN IN AMMAN, CONFERS WITH KING FAISAL OF SAUDI ARABIA IN RIYADH SATURDAY AND THEN FLIES TO EUROPE FOR MEETINGS WITH GROMYKO AND (THE) SHAH IN SWITZERLAND.

SCHWEID CONTINUES: HAK, UNDER ATTACK BY THE KREMLIN AND

WITH PROSPECTS FOR A SINAI SETTLEMENT STILL IN DOUBT, WOUND UP HIS TALKS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS TODAY, HAD LUNCH WITH FORMER PREMIER GOLDA MEIR AND FLEW ON TO JORDAN.

AS THE DAY BEGAN, A BOMB EXPLODED IN A FIELD LESS THAN A MILE FROM HAK'S JERUSALEM HOTEL, AND POLICE SAID THEY FOUND TWO CHARRED BODIES IN THE FIELD. AUTHORITIES HAD NO IMMEDIATE EXPLANATION.

IN MOSCOW, BREZHNEV LASHED OUT AT HAK'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A STEP-BY-STEP ME SETTLEMENT AND CALLED FOR THE "SPEEDIEST" RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA PEACE TALKS.

"PARTIAL BILATERAL MEASURES, AS IN KNOWN, HAVE ALREADY BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN THE MIDDLE EAST," BREZHNEV SAID. "HAVE THEY EASED THE TENSION IN THE AREA? UNFORTUNATELY NOT. HAVE THEY OFFERED TRANQUILITY TO PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST? NO, THEY HAVE NOT."
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 STATE 034446

A SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIAL TOLD NEWSMEN THAT HAK DID NOT CONVEY CONCRETE EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS TO RABIN AND HIS NEGOTIATING TEAM ALTHOUGH HE PROVIDED SOME ELABORATION OF EGYPT'S HARD PUBLIC STANCE.

TAKING OFF FROM ISRAEL, HAK STRESSED AGAIN THAT HIS MISSION WAS EXPLORATORY, BUT HE SAID "THE TALKS THAT I HAVE CONDUCTED HERE AND IN OTHER CAPITALS ENABLE ME TO COME BACK IN A FEW WEEKS FOR THE MORE CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS THAT WE ENVISAGE."

HAK SAID HE WAS "VERY SATISFIED" WITH HIS MEETINGS IN ISRAEL, AND ALLON TOLD AIRPORT NEWSMEN HE HOPED THE SECRETARY'S VISIT "WILL BE RECOGNIZED AS AN IMPORTANT

OPENING FOR NEW POLITICAL INITIATIVES."

A SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIAL, INTIMATELY ACQUAINTED WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS, SAID "EGYPT WANTS THE MAXIMUM TERRITORY. AND PAYING AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE."

THIS OFFICIAL SAID ISRAEL WILL NOT YIELD THE STRATEGIC MITLA AND GIDI MOUNTAIN PASSES AND THE ABU RUDEIS OIL-FIELDS FOR ANYTHING LESS THAN A COMMITMENT BY EGYPT NOT TO USE FORCE, OR THREATEN FORCE AGAINST ISRAEL. THIS COMMITMENT WOULD HAVE NO LIMITATION IN TIME.

THE OTHER MAJOR OPTION BEING DISCUSSED, HE SAID, IS AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL UP TO THE PASSES AND EXCLUDING THE OIL-FIELDS. FOR THIS, HE SAID, EGYPT WOULD HAVE TO "CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE" OF PEACE.

SPECIFICALLY, THIS WOULD INVOLVE A REDUCED DEPENDENCE ON THE SOVIET UNION, AND DIVORCING ITSELF FROM POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL BY THE RADICAL ARAB STATES.

THE AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT,

HE SAID, AND NOT INDIRECTLY THROUGH THE UNITED STATES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 034446

THIS OFFICIAL EMPHASIZED THAT EGYPT IS THE KEY TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, ALWAYS HAVING BEEN THE LEADER IN WARS AGAINST ISRAEL AND THE FIRST TO CALL OFF THE FIGHTING.

THE OFFICIAL SAID ISRAEL IS PREPARED TO SIGN A PEACE TREATY TOMORROW WITH EGYPT, BUT IT RECOGNIZES THAT EGYPT CANNOT STRIKE OUT ON ITS OWN IN THE ARAB WORLD.

STRESSING HIS SUPPORT OF HAK'S STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH, THIS OFFICIAL SAID IF PEACE TALKS WERE MOVED TO GENEVA, THERE WOULD BE AN IMMEDIATE STALEMATE AND ANY HOPES FOR SETTLEMENT WOULD AGAIN DEPEND ON COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY NEGOTIATIONS.

2. UPI (TEL AVIV): HAK BROUGHT BACK LITTLE NEW INFORMATION OR PROPOSALS FROM CAIRO TO ADVANCE NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT, A SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAID TODAY.

THE OFFICIAL OUTLINES ISRAELI POLICY ON DISENGAGEMENT THAT WENT LITTLE BEYOND THE HARD PUBLIC LINE RABIN PRESENTED

WEDNESDAY TO THE ISRAELI KNESSET.

RABIN TOLD THE PARLIAMENT ISRAEL WILL NOT GIVE UP THE SINAI PASSES AT MITLA AND GIDI OR THE OILFIELDS AT ABU RUDEIS UNLESS EGYPT IRREVOCABLY ENDS THE STATE OF WAR BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.

HAK ENDED HIS EXPLORATORY MISSION IN ISRAEL BEFORE FLYING TO JORDAN'S RED SEA PORT OF AQABA TO INFORM KING HUSSEIN OF THE PROGRESS OF THE PEACE TALKS.

THE HIGH ISRAELI OFFICIAL ECHOED THE EARLIER ESTIMATE OF A HIGH AMERICAN OFFICIAL THAT THE CHANCES ARE NO BETTER THAN 50-50 THAT HAK WILL HELP WORK OUT AN AGREEMENT ON A SECOND STAGE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE AREA FOR THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS IN MARCH.

THE ISRAELI OFFICIAL ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE REAL UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 06 STATE 034446

NEGOTIATIONS WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL HAK RETURNS NEXT TIME.

HAK FLEW TO JORDAN TO BRIEF KING HUSSEIN.

IN A DEPARTURE STATEMENT AT BEN-GURION AIRPORT, HAK SAID THE OUTCOME OF HIS JERUSALEM TALKS "ENABLES ME TO COME BACK FOR THE MORE CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS THAT WE ENVISAGE AND THEREFORE I AM VERY SATISFIED WITH MY VISIT HERE, WHICH STRENGTHENS THE ALREADY STRONG TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES."

HIS ISRAELI COUNTERPART, FM ALLON, SAID HE HOPED THE TALKS "DEVOTED MOSTLY FOR EXPLORATION" WOULD LATER "BE RECOGNIZED AS AN IMPORTANT OPENING FOR NEW POLITICAL INITIATIVES IN OUR AREA."

HE ADVISED THE ARAB STATES AGAINST "DRAWING TOO EARLY ANY FINAL CONCLUSIONS WHAT THE RESULTS WILL BE."
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